

# Celebrating Our Founders and Embracing

# Our Sisterhood

2024 Northern Virginia Areawide Founders Day Brunch
Delta SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.



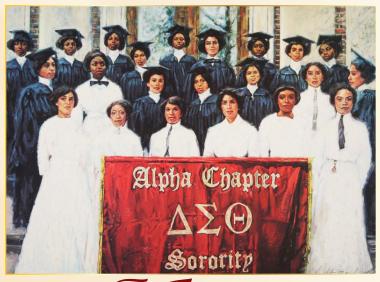
Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles



## 2024 NORTHERN VIRGINIA AREAWIDE FOUNDERS DAY Brunch

Hosted by Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter

Participating Chapters: Fredericksburg Area Alumnae, Loudoun County Alumnae, Northern Virginia Alumnae, Prince William County Alumnae, and Omicron Rho Chapter



## The Founders

Osceola Macarthy Adams Marguerite Young Alexander Winona Cargile Alexander Ethel Cuff Black Bertha Pitts Campbell Zephyr Chisom Carter Edna Brown Coleman Jessie McGuire Dent Frederica Chase Dodd Myra Davis Hemmings Olive Claire Jones Jimmie Bugg Middleton Pauline Oberdorfer Minor Vashti Turley Murphy Naomi Sewell Richardson Mamie Reddy Rose Eliza Pearl Shippen Florence Letcher Toms **Ethel Carr Watson** Wertie Blackwell Weaver Madree Penn White Edith Motte Young







February 25, 2024

Greetings Virginia Sorors,

It is indeed a pleasure to join you in Fairfax County, VA as we celebrate Founders Day 2024, "Celebrating Our Founders and Embracing Our Sisterhood." Regional Representative Kamryn Dixon and I are excited to join with the Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter and the very dynamic and energetic Northern Area Virginia chapters in this celebration.

Today as we bring to a close our South Atlantic 2024 Founders Day celebration of 111 years of commitment to Sisterhood, Scholarship, Service and Social Action, we are excited to end our celebrations with a Rededication Ceremony to help us remember our true purpose for membership in this great organization. Welcome my Sorors to a day to remember our call to service. What a wonderful way to end our 2024 Regional Founders Day program cycle.

My Sorors, as only true Deltas could, you have refrained from letting circumstances define what Delta women are capable of doing. 111 years later, we are still very much like our 22 strong, bold and determined Founders, recognizing that where there is a will, there is always a way. We continue to forge ahead with Fortitude, making life better for those we encounter on a daily basis as well as clearing the path ahead for those yet to come. Thank you for finding ways to incorporate the Delta principles into our sometimes uncomfortable and unpredictable lifestyles.

It is a wonderful experience when chapters from across a state are able to join to celebrate 111 years of sisterhood, scholarship, service and social action within our respective communities. Not only do we assemble to celebrate, but we always leave a collective contribution to a community organization in the service area in which we assemble. Through our collective efforts this year, we will impact the lives of individuals and families served through the Artemis House, Fairfax County's only 24-hour emergency shelter serving victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, and human trafficking. Thank you for your individual and chapter donations.

The Sensational South Atlantic Region, continues to reflect on the strong legacy left by our Founders. We are forever grateful for their leadership, creative spirit and forward thinking that has endured 111 years. We are thankful that they were able to see beyond 1913 to envision this great Sisterhood that we love and enjoy. May God bless each of you as you continue to do His work here on earth while serving others. Happy Founders Day!

Trish R. Johnson, Ed. D

Kamrvn Dixon

Trísh R. Johnson

Kamryn Dixon

South Atlantic Regional Director South Atlantic Regional Representative



NATASHA C. PALMER

HANNAH HENLEY



KIMBERLY STEVENS

#### **GREETINGS, TO OUR SWEET SORORS IN** THE STATE OF VIRGINIA!

We pray that 2024 has started with an abundance of joy, love, peace, and blessings for each of you!

We are so excited to celebrate the 111th anniversary of our beloved sorority. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Inc., with you and welcome you to this areawide Founders Day celebration with sisterly greetings, bright smiles, and warm embraces.

Sorors, a very special day has been planned for you as we rededicate ourselves to the tenets and work of our sorority, celebrating our Founders and embracing our sisterhood. We hope you will savor every moment as we reconnect with one another and pay homage to our 22 Founders.

As we look at all that is occurring in our world, undoubtedly, 2024 is the year we are called to greater action and greater service. Together, we will continue to make a positive and lasting impact in our communities and the world, upholding the legacy established 111 years ago by our Founders. Much like those courageous and visionary young collegiate women, we must move forward with fortitude, humility, compassion, kindness, empathy, faith, hope, and love.

To the host chapter, the Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for a job well done. You have planned for this weekend for well over a year and your labor of love has finally come to fruition. Your dedication has been truly remarkable! We also express our appreciation to our Regional Director, Regional Representative, Regional Secretary, Regional Protocol Team, and Regional Emergency Response Team for the support and guidance you have provided during the planning for this areawide Founders Day celebration. From your Virginia Leadership Team, we love and S.E.E. each of you!

Sorors, again, we welcome you to this areawide Founders Day celebration and wish you a joyous day!

Peace and Blessings,







### Celebrating our Founders and Embracing our Disterhood

Greetings, Sorors, and welcome to the Northern Virginia Cluster Areawide Founders Day Rededication and Brunch Celebration! The 150 members of the Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter (FCAC) are grateful and blessed to be your hosts for the day.

We want every element of today's program to encourage rededication, recommitment, and reclamation as we celebrate our Founders and embrace our Sisterhood. We hope you enjoy the programming that includes members from each of our area chapters.

which demonstrates our strong and sisterly bond.

Today and every day, let us not take for granted what our beloved Founders were contemplating, planning, executing, and experiencing III years ago. As we connect with the past, let us resolve to take our scholarship, service, and social action to greater heights and make a conscious and sisterly effort to follow in the footsteps of our Founders.

Thank you to our regional and state leaders for your guidance in getting us to this day. Thank you to the sorors from FCAC and all of the area chapters who helped us with the planning and execution. A special thank you to our Founders Day Co-Chairs. First, for saying yes to the task, and second, for doing such an awesome job in completing the task!

Thank you to everyone for your participation as we celebrate our Founders and embrace our Sisterhood!

Yours in Delta, Helene L. Fisher

**HELENE L. FISHER** 

President

Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.





Greetings, Sorors!

Welcome to Fairfax, Virginia! We are thrilled that you chose to celebrate the Northern Virginia illustrious 111th Founders Day of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated with us. Our theme, "Celebrating Our Founders and Embracing Our Sisterhood," is fitting for this occasion. Our founders had a vision in 1913 and 111 years later we are continuing their vision by working collectively to see change and enhance the lives of women, men, and children around the world.

The members of Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter have worked hard planning this areawide Founders Day celebration. Forming sub-committees and working alongside members of our sister chapters. It has been a lot of work that provided an opportunity to get to know other Sorors in the chapters and build relationships. On behalf of the 150 members of the Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter, the Areawide Founders Day Committee, and members, we thank you for your commitment, time and hope you enjoy the day as we celebrate the legacy of our Founders.

The celebration will begin with a rededication ceremony that will remind us why we belong to Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority, Inc. Following will be a brunch, a dramatic presentation and of course vendors. Bringing us full circle with our theme. We appreciate the twenty-three vendors who have joined us today.

Thank you to the vivacious Virginia State Leadership Team for your guidance and leadership throughout this journey. To the Regional Leadership Team, your support and guidance is unmeasurable, thank you.

Welcome Again, Sorors!

Beverly Thornton / Lisa Williams

BEVERLY THORNTON and LISA WILLIAMS, CO-CHAIRS

2024 Northern Virginia Founders Day Committee

#### TODAY'S PROGRAM

Emergency Response Briefing Regina Milteer-Rock Co-Chair, ERT Committee Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter			
Protocol Message Deborah Clarke  Protocol Committee Chair, South Atlantic Region			
REDEDICATION CEREMONY			
Brunch Prelude			
Brunch Processional			
Welcome			
Mistress of Ceremony			
Introduction of Dais			
Greetings			
Hannah Henley Virginia State Facilitator			
Natasha Palmer Virginia State Coordinator			
Kamryn Dixon South Atlantic Regional Representative			
Dr. Trish R. Johnson South Atlantic Regional Director			
Occasion			

Musical Selection		
Blessing of the Food		
BRUNCH BUFFET		
Dramatic Presentation Arts & Letters Committee Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter		
Inspirational Word		
Musical Selection		
Community Service Melanie Carter Project Highlights President, Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter		
Ava Foster Chair, AWFD Community Service Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter		
Acknowledgments		
Passing the Torch & Closing Remarks Natasha Palmer Virginia State Coordinator		
<b>Helene Fisher</b> President, Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter		
Announcements		
Benediction		

Recessional









2024 Northern VA Areawide Founders Day Community Service Project HIGHLIGHTS







Service is the rent we pay for the privilege of living on this earth. It is the very purpose of life, and not something you do in your spare time.

- SHIRLEY CHISHOLM





### FREDERICKSBURG AREA ALUMNAE CHAPTER DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.



### AREAWIDE FOUNDERS DAY COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

In recognition of our 2024 Area-Wide Founders Day Community Service Project to support an organization focused on empowering women, the Fredericksburg Area Alumnae Chapter (FAAC) identified longstanding partner, Empowerhouse as the recipient of their donation drive.

Empowerhouse is a nonprofit, 501(C)3 Virginia-accredited domestic violence program serving the City of Fredericksburg, and its surrounding counties of Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania, and Stafford. The mission is to empower survivors of domestic violence and their children to believe in themselves and build new lives filled with dignity, respect, safety, and hope; and the vision is to create a diverse network of community members working together to promote safe relationships, homes, and communities.



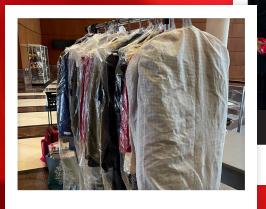
The Empowerhouse team shared a wish list of items that would be most beneficial to the women and children at their secret shelter, The Haven, this season. The wish list included paper goods, cleaning supplies, non-perishable food, and gift cards. FAAC's variety of donations, such as healthy kid snacks, pantry staples, disinfectant wipes, toilet paper, underwear, and clothing store gift cards helped fulfill the request. All collected items were delivered to Empowerhouse on February 13, 2024.

FAAC thanked the Empowerhouse team for the amazing work they continue to do in our community and the Empowerhouse team in turn expressed their sincere appreciation for the women of FAAC being a friend and supporter.



SINCE 1980, WE'RE SERVING OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH: FAITH, ADVOCACY, ACTION AND COMMITMENT

**FAACDST.ORG** 





CHAPTER







Shelter House, Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides crisis intervention, safe housing, and supportive services to local families that are experiencing homelessness as well as victims of domestic violence in our community. Several years ago, Shelter House volunteers advocated to Fairfax County government, to provide more resources to the homeless. Through their efforts, Shelter House was able to secure a county contract in 1985, which led to opening one of the first charter shelters in Fairfax County. Since then, Shelter House has continued to grow as an organization to

accommodate the growing needs in our community, by also expanding into Loudoun County. Today, Shelter House operates five shelter facilities and several housing programs.

#### THE FAIRFAX COUNTY ALUMNAE CHAPTER (FCAC)

supported Artemis House, one of the many sites under the Shelter House organization. Artemis House is a means to deliver immediate need for families who are victimized by domestic violence. Individual members of FCAC have assisted Artemis House throughout the years, while the chapter has provided donations based on their needs, and for the occupants at large. Our charge for the areawide service initiative was to provide professional women's clothing to prepare residents for workforce opportunities. We gathered

gently used (and dry-cleaned) suits, dresses, pants, blouses, jackets, and many pairs of shoes for anyone going on an interview or seeking employment to support their family. Accessories such as jewelry and handbags were also donated to complete a professional look. FCAC's efforts

garnered three vehicles packed with items for Artemis House, and our hope is that our continued relationship with them will be a blessing to others in their time of need.



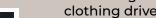


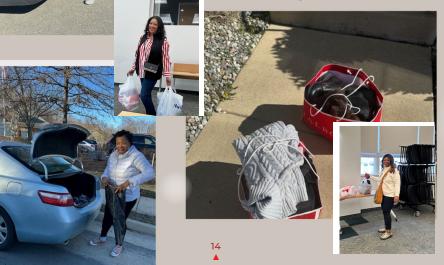


WGB

**LCAC DST** 

LCAC's illustrious women collaborated with Women Giving Back for our clothing drive.







Women Giving Back supports women and children in crisis by providing quality clothing and items to help improve their lives by meeting their fundamental needs. Items for the clothing drive were dropped off at the Cascade and Brambleton Libraries at designated hours. Items were also collected from sorors at their homes and community locations. After the generous donations were collected, they were categorized; placed in white trash bags with labels; and dropped off at Women Giving Back, located in Sterling, Virginia.

THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA ALUMNAE CHAPTER (NOVAC) was chartered on May 17, 1959, and has been serving the Northern Virginia area for over 60 years.

On January 15, 2024, as part of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Day of Service, NoVAC partnered with the Northern Virginia (NoVA) Section of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc., We Feed Our People, Good Health Wins, Project Hygiene, Inc., the NOVA Chapter of Les Gemmes, and Hardemon Dynasty, Inc. to support the residents of Bailey's Shelter & Supportive Housing (also known as New Hope Housing) in Falls Church.

Bailey's Shelter is a multi-service facility that houses both a shelter program and permanent supportive housing. The shelter has 48 beds for men or women with 4 additional medical respite beds for homeless adults discharged from hospitals needing extra care. Together the partnering organizations collected over 1,650 toiletry and clothing items for distribution and over \$600 in monetary donations for the Shelter. During the Day of Service event more than 100 shelter residents and day-visitors shopped for necessity items and/or were served a hot meal by organization volunteers. All excess items were donated to Martha's Table in Washington, DC and a local chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. for its Men's Clothing Drive Initiative.













# THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY ALUMNAE CHAPTER (PWCAC)

partnered with Action in Community Through Service (ACTS) to collect and donate items for their Domestic Violence Program. Through this program, women of domestic violence are able to seek crisis counseling, safety planning, and participate in psycho educational support groups as they strive to move from homelessness to a more stable, safe and secure

environment. Our contributions will serve as a resource to women in Prince William County who might otherwise be forced into situations that could result in their demise or environments of similar behaviors.

We worked with ACTS to identify items needed to assist women before, after and during their transition to a more stable environment. Based on their request, we scheduled two collection dates (January 15th and February 10th, 2024) for Sorors and community residents to drop off donations. As a result of their generosity, we collected 110 pounds of food, 65 blankets, 60 hat and scarf sets, 50 scarves, 51 coats, 35 shower puffs, 35 towels, 30 bottles of body wash, 32 tubes of deodorant, 15 packs of undergarments and 32 packs of baby wipes. These items will be used to assist women of Prince William County as they rebuild their lives free from violence and instill in them the confidence to overcome barriers resulting from patterns of abusive relationships. Recognizing the increase in domestic violence amongst women in Prince William County, along with its physical and mental impact, the Sorors of PWCAC elected to work with ACTS because of its robust Domestic Violence Program. By establishing this partnership with ACTS, the Sorors of PWCAC will continue to help

address issues that not only impact women of domestic violence, but other crisis and human services that focus on hunger, homelessness and interpersonal violence. Our efforts will have a direct impact on these women as they work to achieve self-sufficiency, re-enter the labor force and gain confidence in reshaping their lives. The Sorors of PWCAC are committed to working with ACTS and other community partners to address and combat these and other issues that plague our community causing economic and financial hardship.



#### THE 2024 NORTHERN VIRGINIA AREAWIDE FOUNDERS DAY COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL WHO HELPED MAKE THIS DAY A SUCCESS

(in alpha order)

#### REDEDICATION CEREMONY PARTICIPANTS

Sharon Andrews Ritta Armstead Melanie Carter **Demetrics Davis** Kamryn Dixon Darlene Faltz Helene Fisher Hannah Henley Dr. Trish Johnson Pamela Lewis Natasha Palmer Karen Randolph Diane Reese Kimberly Stevens Lauren Tolbert Regina Ware Crystal Wheeler



#### AREAWIDE FOUNDERS DAY CHOIR

Directed by Tikeshia Davis, Loudoun County Alumnae

Veronica Abrams, NoVAC

Joanelle Baptiste, FCAC

Drenica Brunson, LCAC

Kimberly Clark, FAAC

Rolanda Colbert, FCAC

Tikeshia Davis, LCAC

Lisa Crow, PWCAC

Marguerite H Elias-Rice, NoVAC

Deborah Foreman, NoVAC

Lisa Grant, NoVAC Patricia Harris, NoVAC

Wyvonnie Harsley, FAAC

Jane James, FCAC

Tracey Lacey, LCAC

Edith Romaine, NoVAC

Volita Russell, FCAC

Pamela Sams, LCAC

Bridget Turner, LCAC

Valmarie Turner, LCAC

Bethye Valenzuela, PWCAC

#### "DISTINCTION"

Written and Directed by E. D. Bellino, Fairfax County Alumnae

Joanelle Baptiste, FCAC Earlena Bellino, FCAC

Nikita Carter, FCAC

Jasmine Correy, NoVAC

LaToya Deans Tilley, FCAC

Chaunice O'Neal, FCAC

Yolanda Ortiz, FCAC

Sydney MaHan, FCAC

Georgia Manning, FCAC

LaToya Peterson-Renfrow, FCAC

Cheron Reed, NoVAC

LaQuinda Thorton, FCAC

Jamel Walker, FCAC

Keshia Woods, FCAC

Regina Ware, FCAC

#### **PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Raven Andrews, PWCAC Felicia Jackson, *Chair*, FCAC Kimberly Powell, FCAC Ashley Rock-Smith, FCAC

Community Service Project – Ava Foster, Chair
Emergency Response Team – Candace Marshall Humphrey, Chair
Evaluations – Chanquale Jeffries, Chair
Communications – Yolanda Ortiz, Chair
Gifts – Regina Milteer-Rock, Chair
Heritage & Archives – Darlene Faltz, Chair
Protocol & Traditions – Cherie Furlow, Chair
Rededication Ceremony – Lenior Simmons. Chair

Registration – Donna Smith, Chair Technology – LaToya Peterson-Renfrow, Chair Vendors/Door Prizes – Charlene Eberhardt, Chair

#### VENDORS

<u>Bovanti</u>	Buxton Shique	Diggin Her Roots Boutique
Forever's Treasures	HairFree Girl	<u>Heritage Treasures</u>
Hey Greeks	It Looks Good On You	Jerha Couture
JGT Creations	JOJO Creations	Jones Thornton Clothiers
Joyce Specialties	L&B Creative Designs	Lavindoes Designer Fashions
Legacy Dream Luxe	LNO GREEK	Sassy's Gifts
Shukri Goldsmiths	Terra's Boutique	The Bling Queen Diva
The Ruby Room	Who Will Know	

The Staff at Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles



### Thank You for Joining Us

We hoped you had a wonderful time, and would appreciate your feedback on the experience. Please scan the code above, or visit tinyurl.com/24AreawideFounders to fill out a brief evaluation by March 3, 2024